

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0585

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L B U C H A R E S T 4 9 2 7

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS SHUM RO

SUBJECT: MORE ON ROMANIAN PASSPORT DISSIDENTS

REF: (A) STATE 176082, (B) BUCHAREST 4854

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOW-UP CONTACTS WITH GROUP WHICH ATTEMPTED HUNGER STRIKE JULY 10 REVEAL NO REPRISALS AS YET BY ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES. TWO MORE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP CAME TO EMBASSY AND IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES. A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT GROUP OF FOUR ATTEMPTED TO STAGE A HUNGER STRIKE JULY 13 IN EMBASSY WAITING ROOM, BUT DISPERSED VOLUNTARILY AFTER TALK WITH VICE CONSUL. END SUMMARY.

2. ON TUESDAY, JULY 11, VICE CONSUL WAS VISITED BY TWO MORE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WHICH HAD ATTEMPTED TO STAGE HUNGER STRIKE IN CONSULAR WAITING ROOM JULY 10. EMBASSY HAD NO PREVIOUS RECORD OF EITHER; THEY WERE ESCORTED IN BY CONSTANTIN ADAM (SEE REF B). THEY IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS: NITESCU, VIRGIL, B. 5/3/51, FROM BUCHAREST, NO RELATIVES IN US. BOTH SEEMED MOTIVATED BY PROFESSIONAL FRUSTRATIONS AND DESIRE TO LIVE IN WEST.

3. ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, VICE CONSUL WAS VISITED BY CIOCALTEU AND NITU FROM THE SAME GROUP, WHO LEFT A LETTER

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FOR THE PRESIDENT AND SAID THAT JULY 10 AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION IN THE WAITING ROOM THEY WERE STOPPED A BLOCK AND A HALF AWAY FROM THE EMBASSY BY POLICE WHO READ THEIR IDENTITY CARDS ALOUD AND TOLD THEM THAT THEY WOULD BE FINED IF THEY PASSED BY IN THE FUTURE, ALTHOUGH POLICE MADE NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE EMBASSY. THE TWO MEN ALSO RELATED THAT GROUP HAD BEEN REFUSED ADMITTANCE

TO PASSPORT OFFICE TUESDAY JULY 11 AND HAD BEEN TOLD TO
LEAVE OR BE FINED.

4. AROUND 1500 ON JULY 12, CONSTANTIN ADAM CALLED AND
SPOKE WITH CONSUL IN ITALIAN STATING THAT GROUP MEMBERS
HAD NOT BEEN HARASSED OR ARRESTED.

5. ON THURSDAY, JULY 13, AT ABOUT 1330 LOCAL VICE CONSUL
WAS INFORMED BY ROMANIAN EMPLOYEE THAT A GROUP VICE CONSUL
HAD JUST INTERVIEWED HAD REFUSED TO DEPART THE WAITING
ROOM AT CLOSING TIME. GROUP CONSISTED OF FOUR YOUNG MEN
WHO SAID THAT THEY WISHED TO STAGE A HUNGER STRIKE TO
PROTEST INABILITY TO OBTAIN TOURIST AND EMIGRATION PASSPORTS.

THE INDIVIDUALS COMPRISING THE GROUP WERE:

-- BORCAN, OVIDIU-DUMITRU, B. 8/8/50, APPLYING FOR
EMIGRATION PASSPORT, NO RELATIVES IN US, INELIGIBLE
212(A) (9) AND SO INFORMED; HE HAS WIFE INELIGIBLE
212 (A) (28).
-- MELEASA, MIRCEA, B. 5/1/54, APPLYING FOR TOURIST
PASSPORT, KNOWN TO EMBASSY, HAS US ALIEN RESIDENT
COUSIN GHEORGHE FARAH, PROBABLY INELIGIBLE 214(B).
ALTHOUGH THIS IS OSTENSIBLY AN NIV CASE, SUBJECT AND
US RELATIVES HAVE ELICITED INQUIRIES TO EMBASSY ON
PART OF SENATORS HATCH, MOYNIHAN, JAVITS, THURMOND,
CASE, WILLIAM, HUBERT HUMPHREY; CONGRESSMEN GREEN,
PATTEN, AND OTHERS OVER COURSE OF LAST TWO-THREE
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YEARS.

-- POPESCU, NICOLAE, B. 7/30/57, APPLYING FOR
EMIGRATION PASSPORT, FOR AUSTRIA AND US, NO RELATIVES
IN US, POSSIBLY INELIGIBLE 212(A) (9).
-- RADULESCU, GHEORGHE, B. 9/21/52, APPLYING FOR TOURIST
PASSPORT, NO RELATIVES US, PROBABLY INELIGIBLE 214(B).
ALL SUBJECTS, WITH EXCEPTION MELEASA, HAVE PREVIOUS
CONVICTIONS FOR TRYING TO CROSS BORDER ILLEGALLY, AND ALL
ARE FROM BUCHAREST.

6. VICE CONSUL INFORMED GROUP THEY COULD NOT HUNGER STRIKE
ON EMBASSY GROUNDS AND REFUSED TO INFORM ROMANIAN
AUTHORITIES OF DEMONSTRATION WHEN ASKED TO DO SO BY
SUBJECTS. GROUP AGREED TO DEPART WHEN CONOFF TOLD THEM
EMBASSY WOULD ACCEPT A LETTER FROM GROUP FOLLOWING
MORNING.

7. COMMENT. IT OCCURS TO US THAT THIS MAY BE GROUP
MENTIONED IN REF A: IN INTERVIEW, MELEASA MENTIONED TO
CONOFF THAT HE WAS THINKING OF TYING HIMSELF TO EMBASSY
FENCE, AND THAT HIS COUSIN WAS CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON
MILITATING FOR HIM. GROUP ALSO SEEMED HIGHLY INFORMED

ABOUT RECENT EVENTS IN MOSCOW AND KNEW OTHER ROMANIANS
WHO HAD RECENTLY LEFT COUNTRY WITH EMBASSY HELP.
AGGREY

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